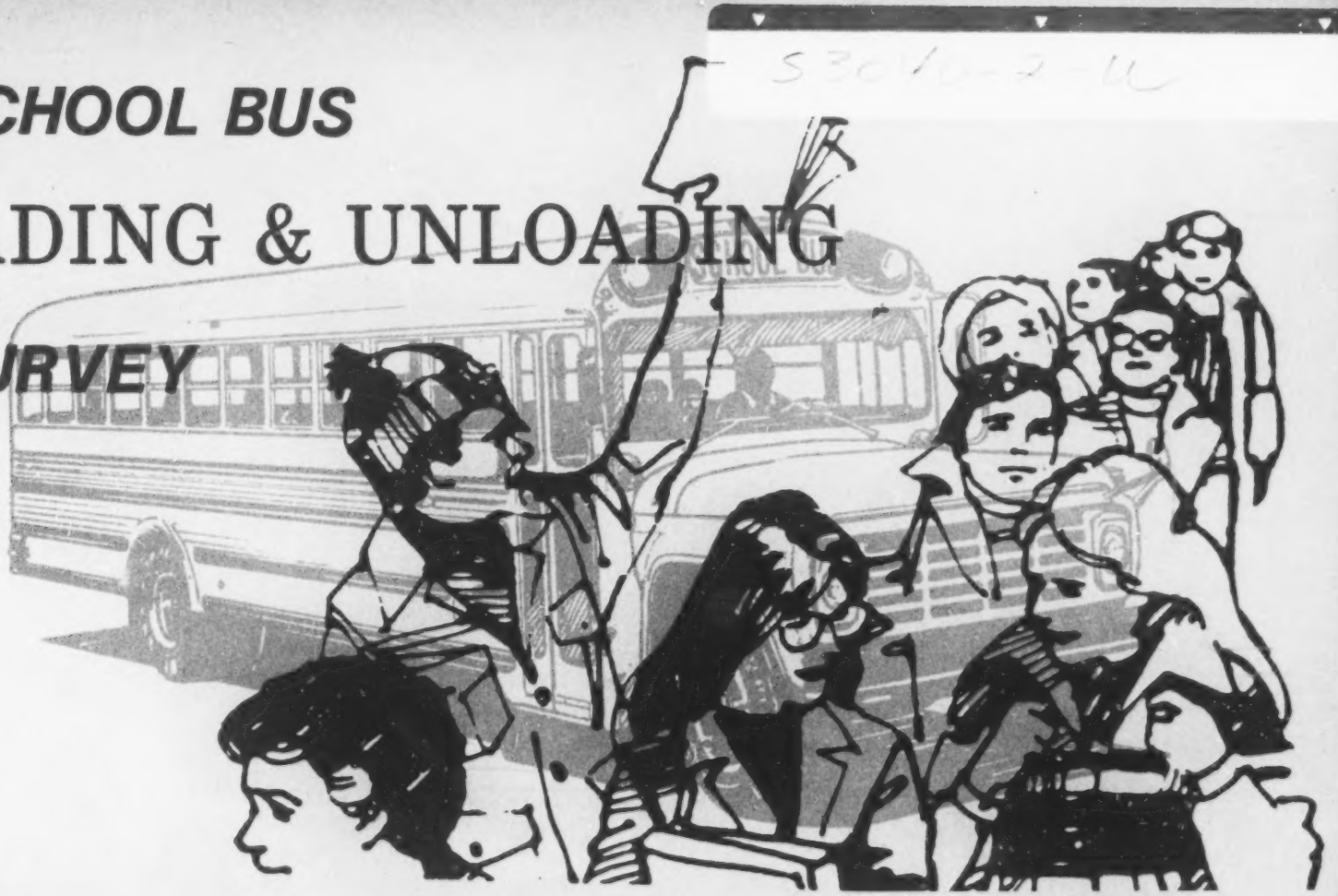
S3010-2-U

SCHOOL BUS

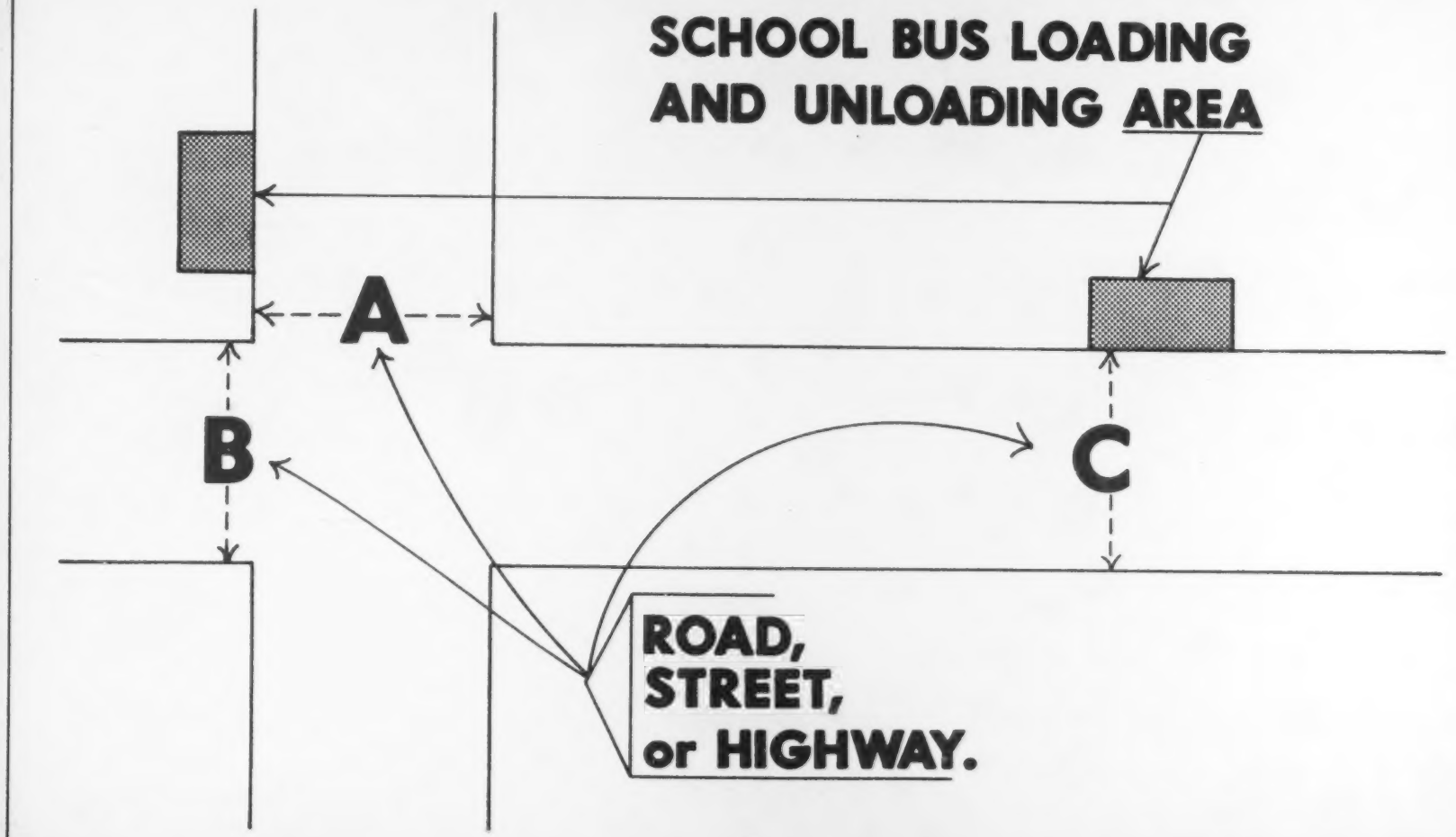
LOADING & UNLOADING

SURVEY



CALENDAR YEAR 1986 SCHOOL YEAR 86-87

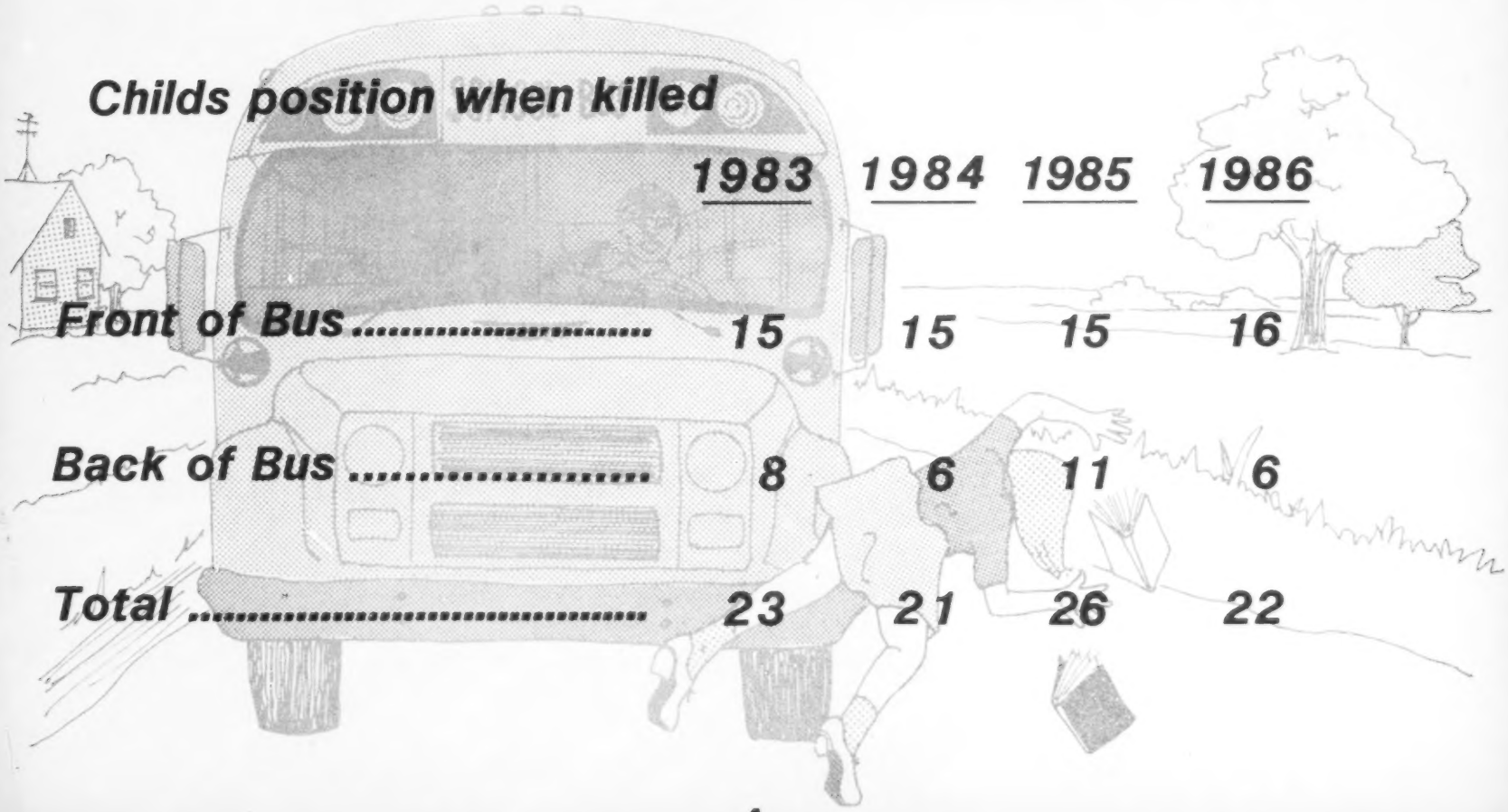
The National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey is a collection of fatality accident records provided by the state agencies responsible for school transportation safety and/or accident records. Only those fatality accidents involving school children in or around the loading or unloading areas of a school bus are included in this survey. On-board fatalities are excluded, as are pedestrian-type fatalities that occur when the school bus is not in the near vicinity at the time of the accident.


SCHOOL BUS LOADING
AND UNLOADING AREA
A
B
C
ROAD,
STREET,
or HIGHWAY.

50 States and Washington, D.C. surveyed

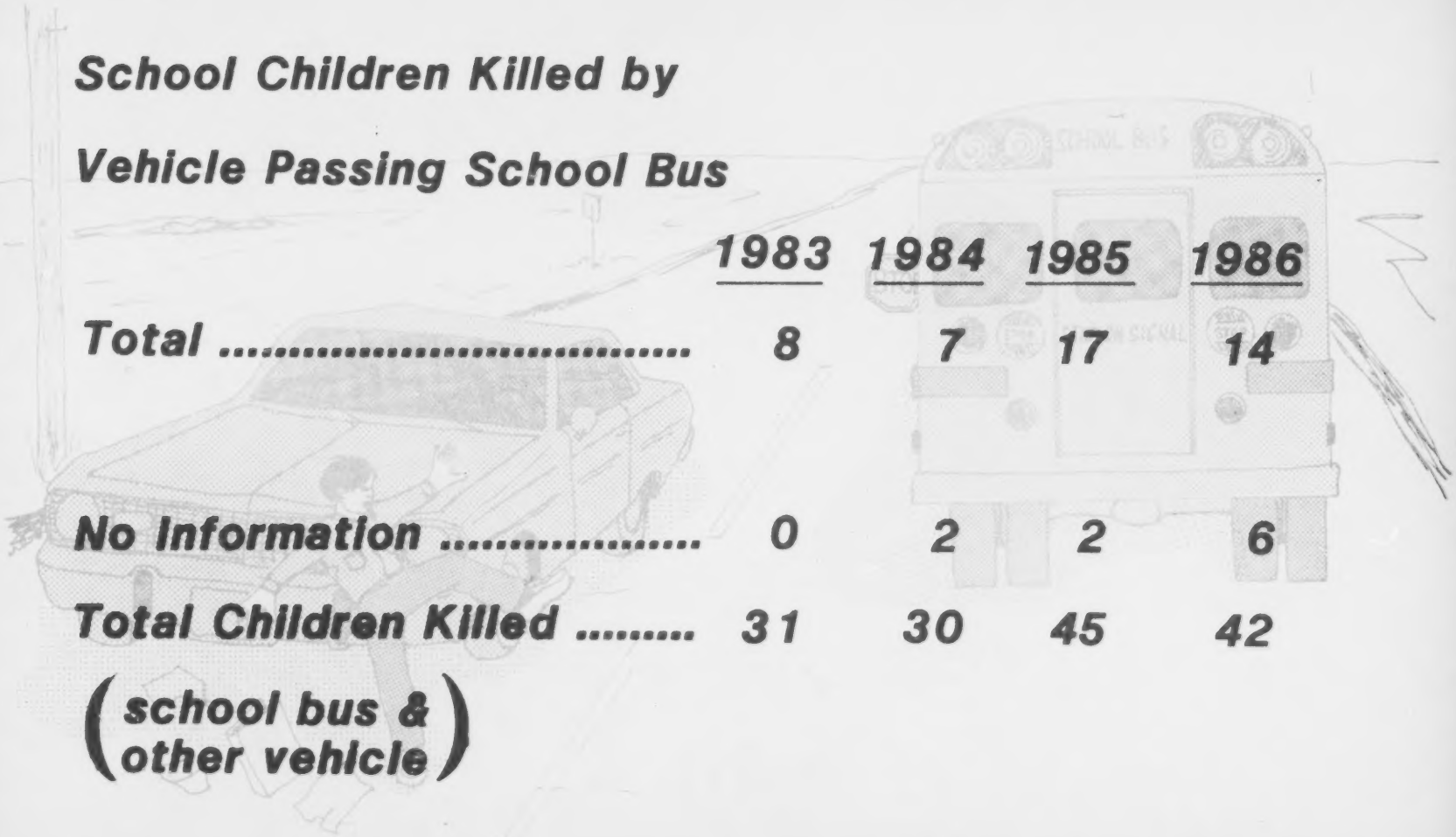
	1983	1984	1985	1986
Number reporting fatalities.....	24	22	24	22
Number reporting no fatalities.....	25	26	27	25
Number not reporting	2	3	0	4

School Children Killed by School Bus



Childs position when killed

	1983	1984	1985	1986
Front of Bus	15	15	15	16
Back of Bus	8	6	11	6
Total	23	21	26	22



School Children Killed by Vehicle Passing School Bus

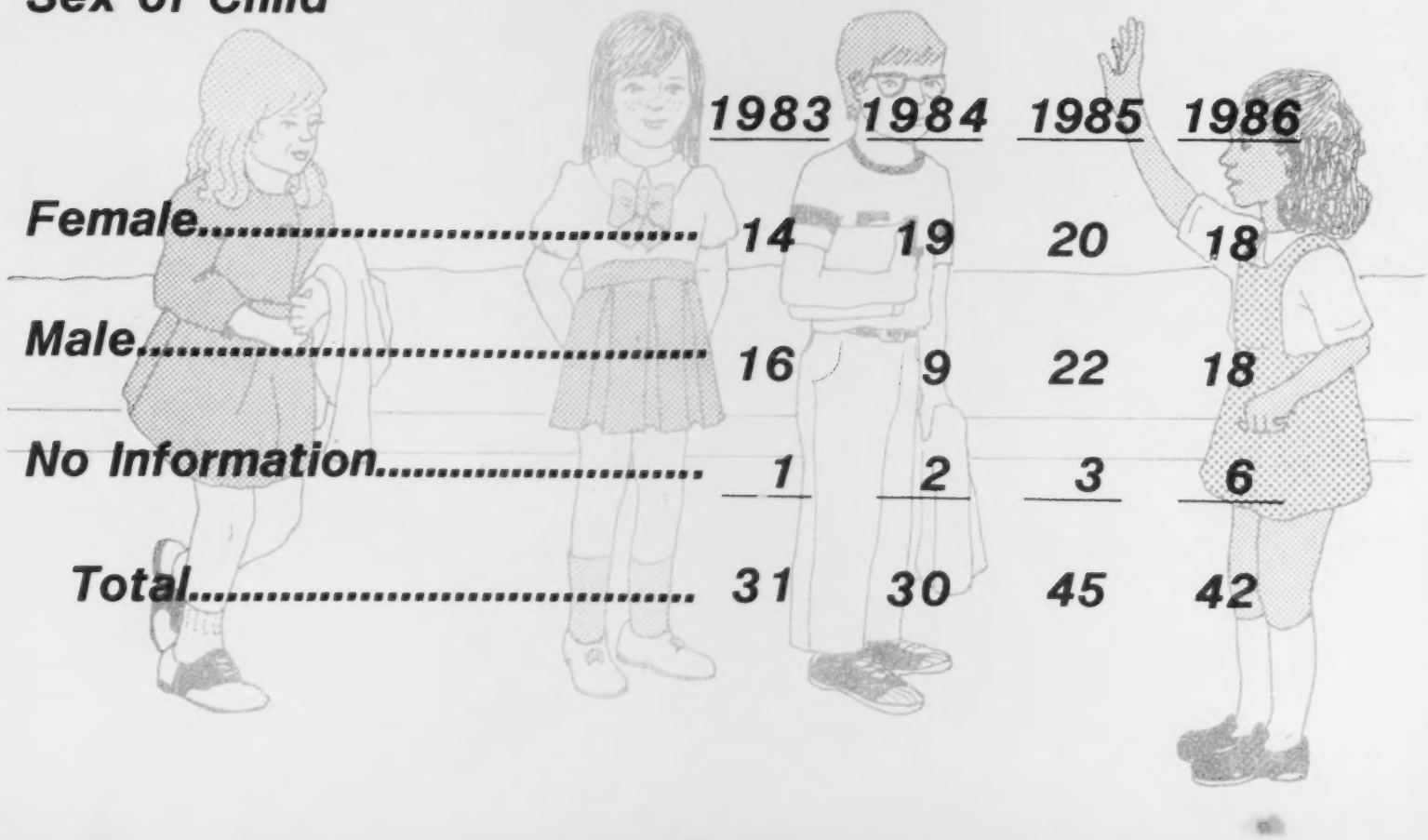
	1983	1984	1985	1986
Total	8	7	17	14
No Information	0	2	2	6
Total Children Killed	31	30	45	42

(school bus & other vehicle)

Light Condition	1983	1984	1985	1986
Dawn	2	1	4	4
Dusk	0	0	0	0
Daylight	28	27	41	27
Dark	1	0	0	2
Unknown	0	2	0	9
Total	31	30	45	42

School Bus Size	1983		1984	1985	1986
Type I (Large Bus)	31	TYPE A	11	10	7
Type II (Small Bus).....	0	TYPE B	1	0	4
Unknown	0	TYPE C	7	23	22
Total	31	TYPE D	4	4	0
		UNK.	7	8	9
		TOTAL	30	45	42

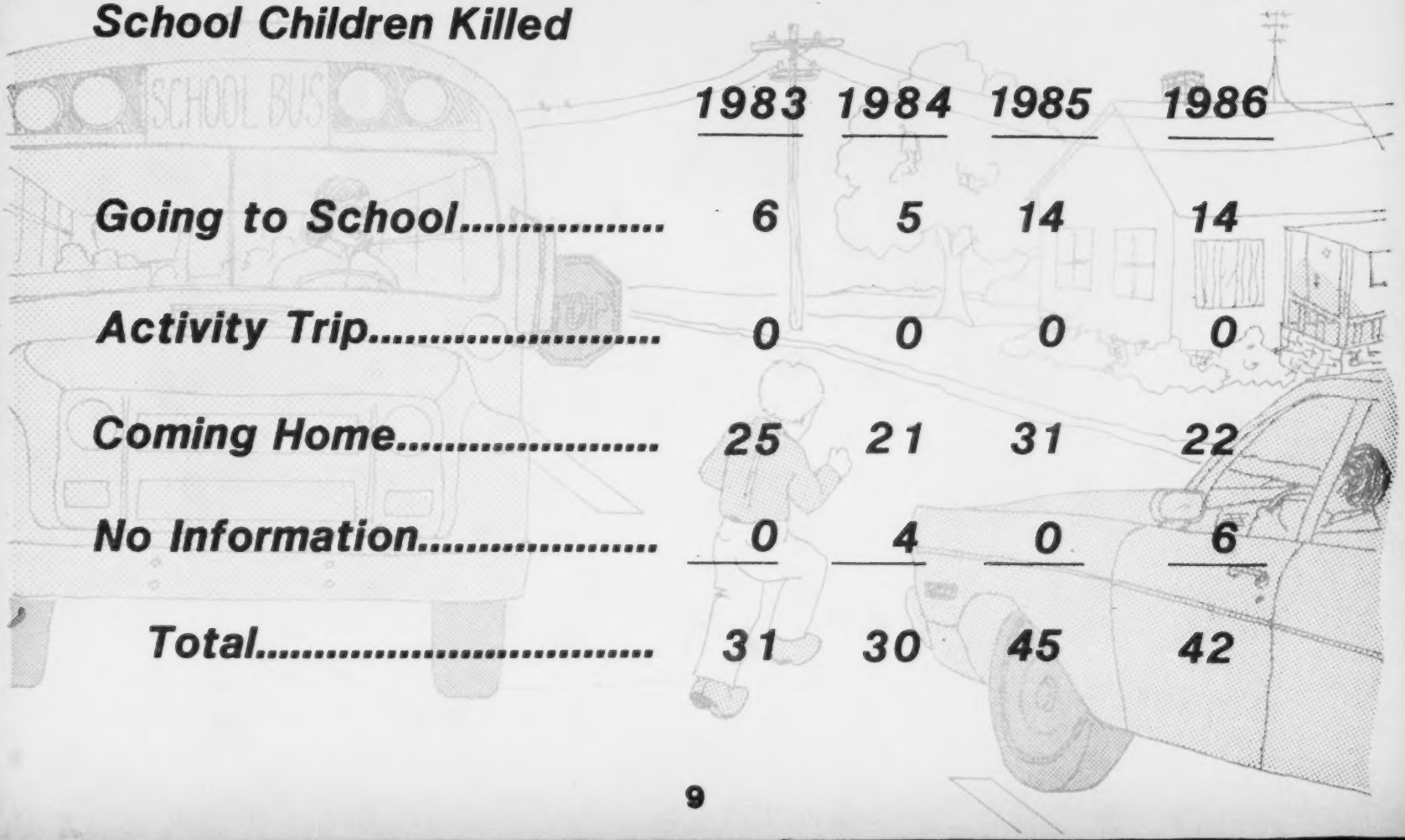
Sex of Child



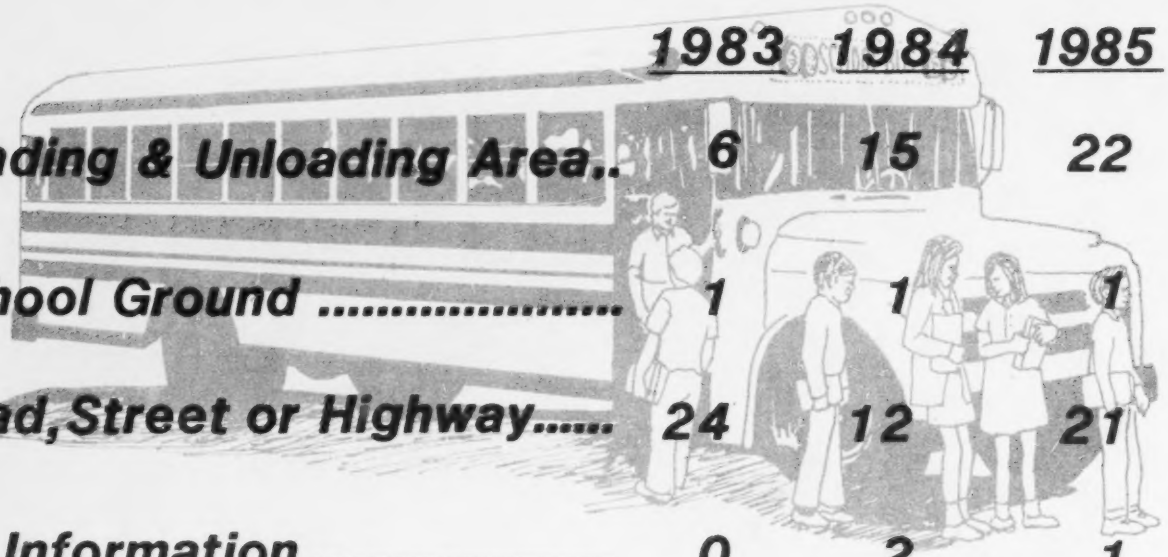
	1983	1984	1985	1986
Female	14	19	20	18
Male	16	9	22	18
No Information	1	2	3	6
Total	31	30	45	42

School Children Killed

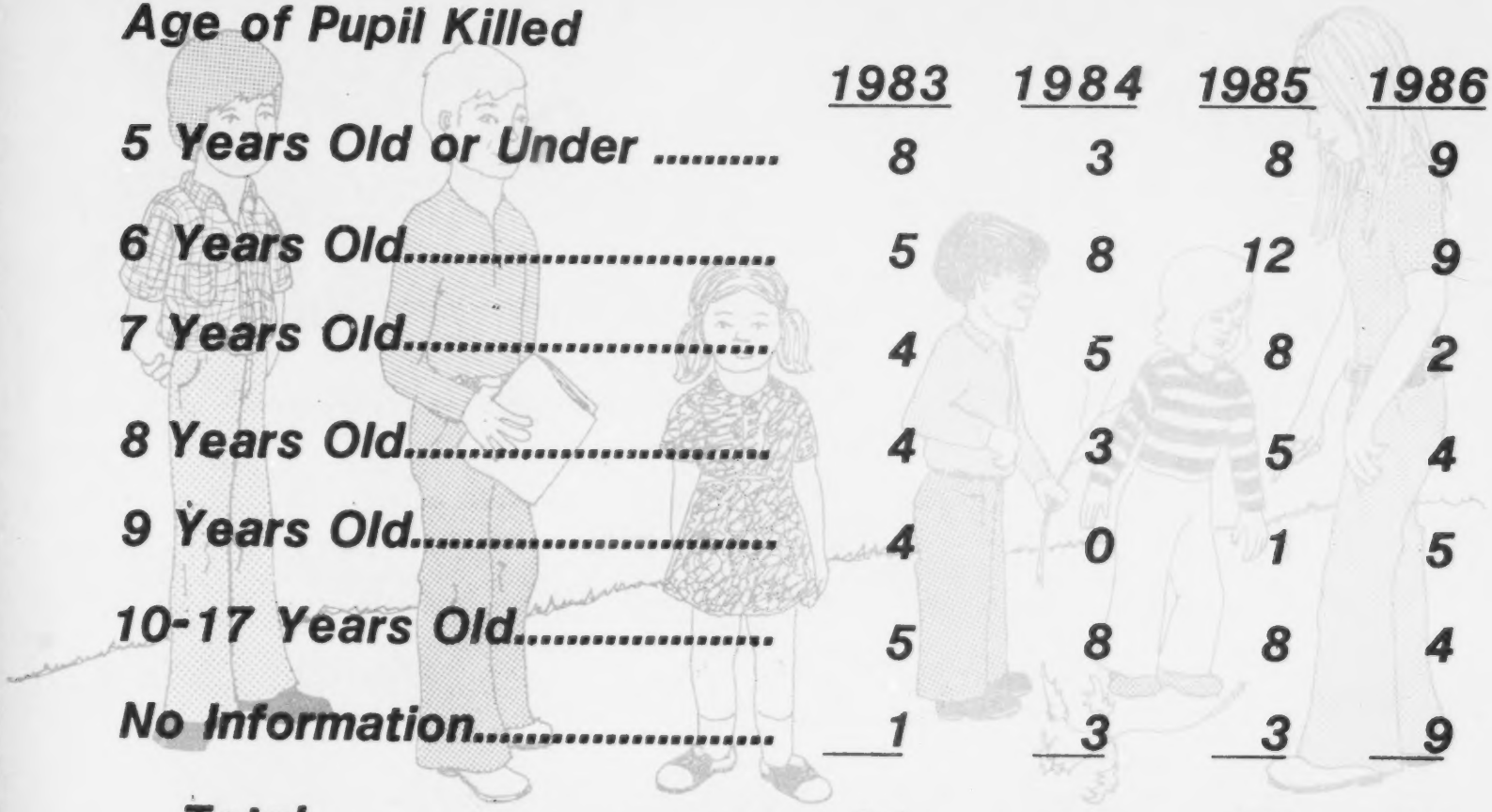
	1983	1984	1985	1986
Going to School.....	6	5	14	14
Activity Trip.....	0	0	0	0
Coming Home.....	25	21	31	22
No Information.....	0	4	0	6
Total.....	31	30	45	42



Place Pupil Was Killed



	1983	1984	1985	1986
Loading & Unloading Area..	6	15	22	13
School Ground	1	1	1	0
Road, Street or Highway.....	24	12	21	22
No Information	0	2	1	7
Total.....	31	30	45	42



Age of Pupil Killed

	1983	1984	1985	1986
5 Years Old or Under	8	3	8	9
6 Years Old.....	5	8	12	9
7 Years Old.....	4	5	8	2
8 Years Old.....	4	3	5	4
9 Years Old.....	4	0	1	5
10-17 Years Old.....	5	8	8	4
No Information.....	1	3	3	9
Total.....	31	30	45	42

Area Accident Occurred

	1983	1984	1985	1986
Urban.....	15	11	20	15
Rural.....	16	15	25	21
No Information.....	0	4	0	6
Total.....	31	30	45	42

Weather Conditions	1983	1984	1985	1986
Clear	26	22	30	29
Cloudy	2	2	3	3
Rain	0	0	1	2
Snow/Sleet/Ice	1	2	1	1
Fog	2	1	0	1
Unknown	0	3	10	6
Total	31	30	45	42

DAY OF THE WEEK FATALITY OCCURRED

1986 (Only)

MONDAY	6
TUESDAY	7
WEDNESDAY	8
THURSDAY	8
FRIDAY	9
SATURDAY	0
SUNDAY	0
UNKNOWN	4

SCHOOL
SCHOOL
SPEED
LIMIT
20
WHEN
FLASHING
WHEN
FLASHING
SCHOOL
SPEED
LIMIT
20
8:30 A.M.
TO 5:30 P.M
STOP
WHEN
CHILDREN
ARE PRESENT
SCHOOL
BUS STOP
AHEAD
WHEN
CHILDREN
ARE PRESENT
R
R

MONTH FATAL ACCIDENT OCCURRED

	1983	1984	1985	1986
JANUARY	1	4	9	5
FEBRUARY	4	4	7	4
MARCH	4	5	2	2
APRIL	3	2	4	4
MAY	4	5	5	5
JUNE	0	1	0	0
JULY	0	0	0	0
AUGUST	0	0	1	1
SEPTEMBER	1	3	1	2
OCTOBER	6	1	7	4
NOVEMBER	5	1	7	2
DECEMBER	2	2	2	4
NO INFORMATION	1	2	0	9
TOTAL	31	30	45	42

ACCIDENT SUMMARY REPORT

1. The school bus stopped to discharge a nine-year-old male at the bus stop. The student exited the bus and had reached a place of safety. The driver proceeded with the next stop. At that time the students and driver felt a large bump. The rear left side wheels on the bus rolled over the child.

2. The bus stopped to discharge students, a 67-year-old woman passed the bus with red flashing lights on the right. An 11-year-old girl was the first of three to get off the bus. She stepped out in front of the passing car and was struck. The bus driver grabbed the other two students stopping them from getting out of the bus.

3. The bus driver believed that all students has crossed in front of the bus and safely reached the resident side of the street. There are conflicting reports on what the pupil did in the few seconds between getting off the bus and being in the path of the bus.

4. The bus driver began to make a left turn after dropping students off. As she started to make the turn she heard a thump and immediately stopped the bus and saw a child lying in the road.

5. The bus stopped in the roadway to unload passengers then proceeded to pull off the shoulder, a six-year-old child evidently went in front of the bus just before it pulled to the shoulder and was run over with the left front tire and left rear dual wheels. Dead at the scene.

6. A five-year-old boy departed the bus with his eight-year-old brother and several other students, the driver checked the rear-view mirror, started forward and heard a bump. Looked in rear-view mirror and saw the boy lying in the street. The accident happened at 3:30 p.m. and he died at 7:47 p.m. while undergoing surgery for internal injuries and a fractured pelvis.

7. The bus was stopped picking up passengers, as the bus was pulling off, a student ran in front of the bus. It was dark and foggy.

8. A student departed the bus and walked on the shoulder of the road behind the school bus and crossed between cars stopped for the bus. The bus started in motion and an oncoming vehicle struck the student.

9. A student departed the bus and crossed the roadway. He came back across the road to pick up papers. The bus driver did not see the student, he started the bus in motion and the rear wheels ran over the student.

10. A student departed the bus and crossed the roadway. He came back across the road and was struck by the bus.

11. A five-year-old girl departed the bus with other children. The bus driver thought she had cleared the front of the bus and crossed the road. She was struck and killed by school bus.

12. A five-year-old boy was struck by the bus after dropping his books in front of the bus. The driver did not see the child, put the bus in motion and ran over him.

13. A nine-year-old girl was struck by the left rear dual wheels while chasing the bus. It was raining and she apparently slipped and fell under the bus. The bus ran over her head.

14. The school bus dropped off children at an intersection, as the driver made a left turn, the left rear tire rolled over one of the children.

15. After dropping off passengers, the driver pulled the bus ahead, running over one of the children who had stepped out in front of the bus.

16. A student was struck by a truck which failed to stop for the stopped school bus. The driver was using the bus safety devices. The student had to cross the highway after leaving the bus.

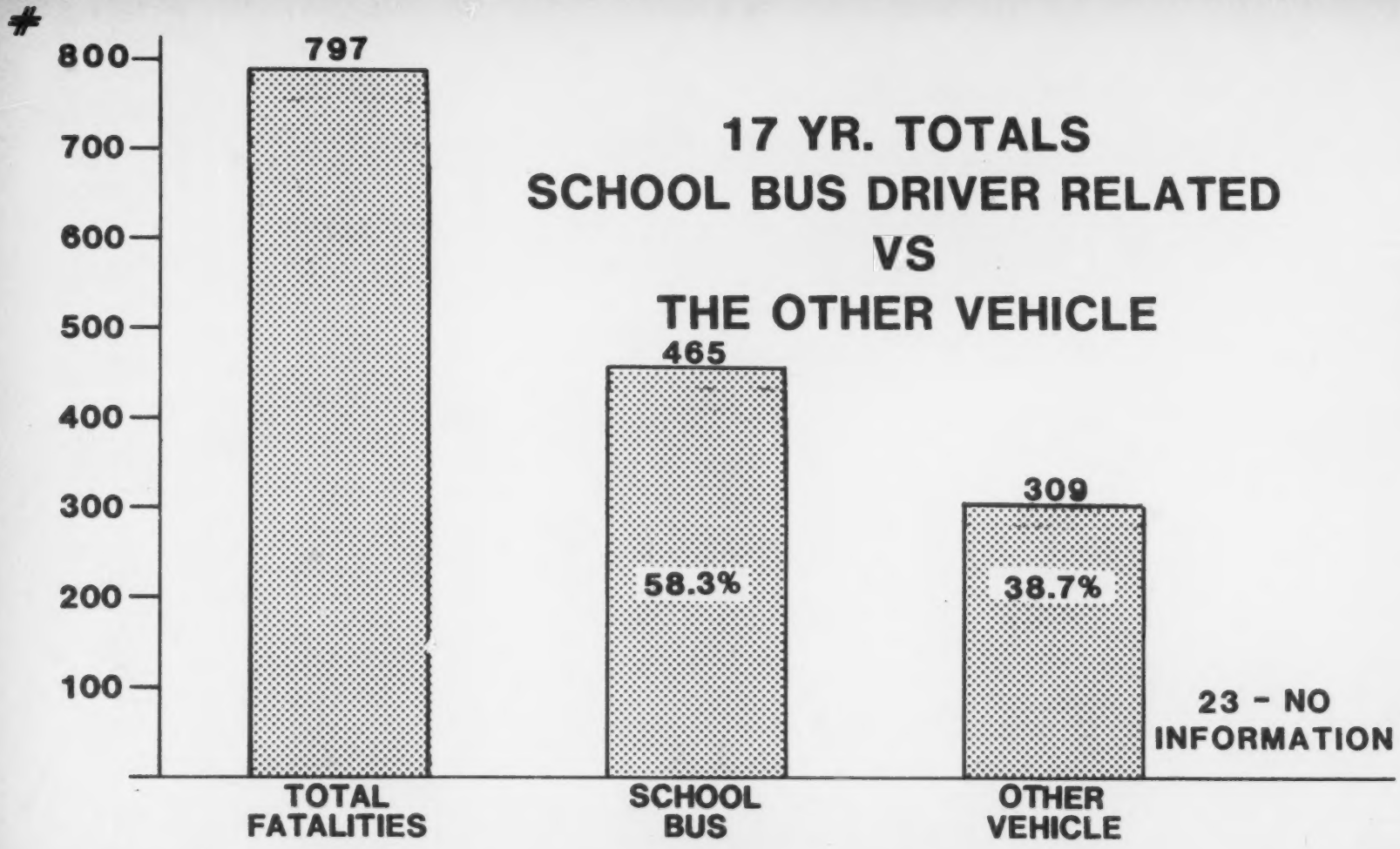
17. The bus had made a stop for students. An eight-year-old girl and brother were late. The children came from slightly behind the bus as it began to pull away and the child fell under the front wheel of the bus. The front wheel pinned the child's head against the ground.

18. A child was struck and killed, prior to the bus arriving, in the general area of the bus stop. The child did not have to cross the roadway, but had done so to play prior to the arrival time of the bus.

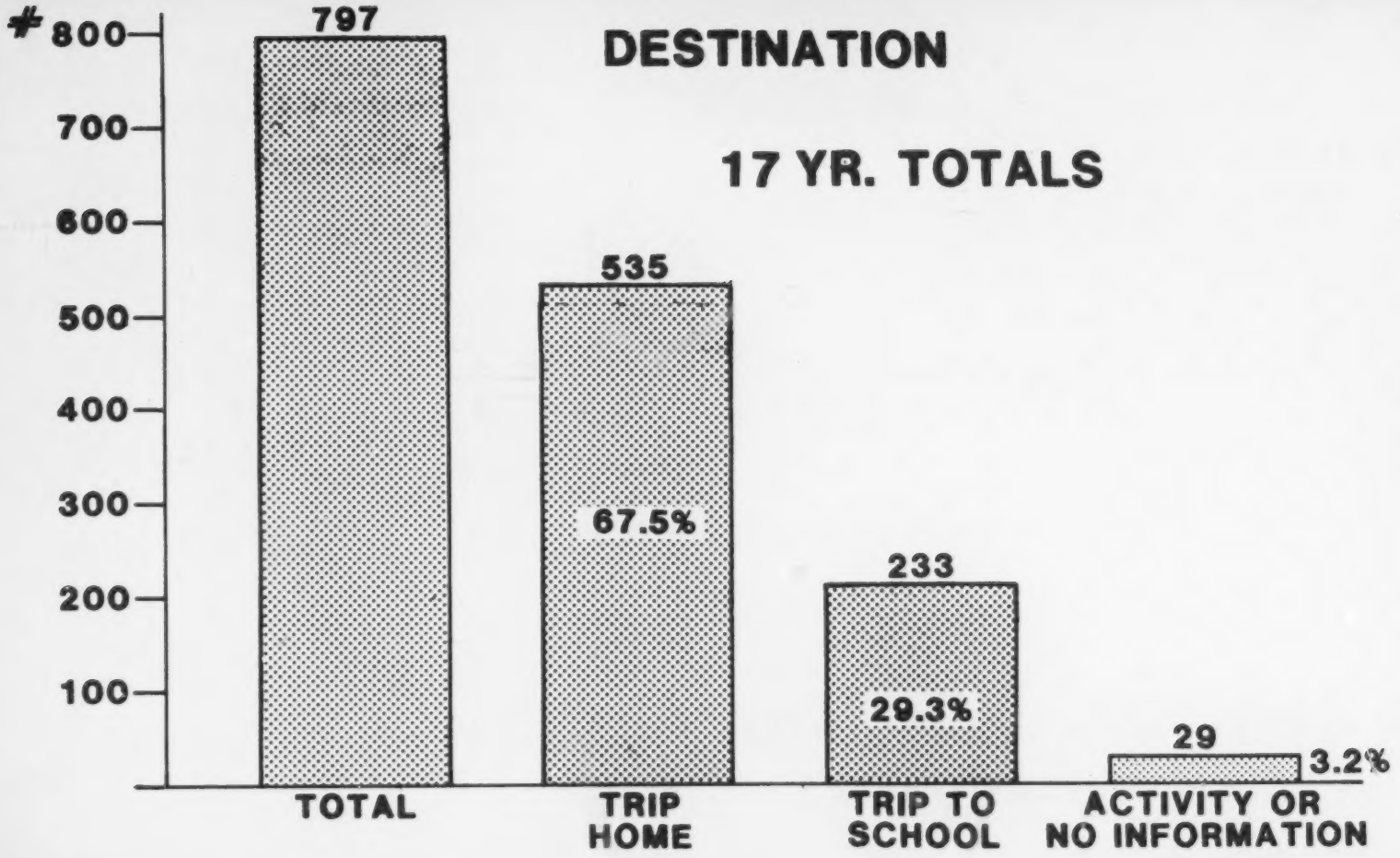
19. A 14-year-old male student missed his regular bus stop and was crossing the road to catch the bus at another stop, when he was struck by an automobile and killed.

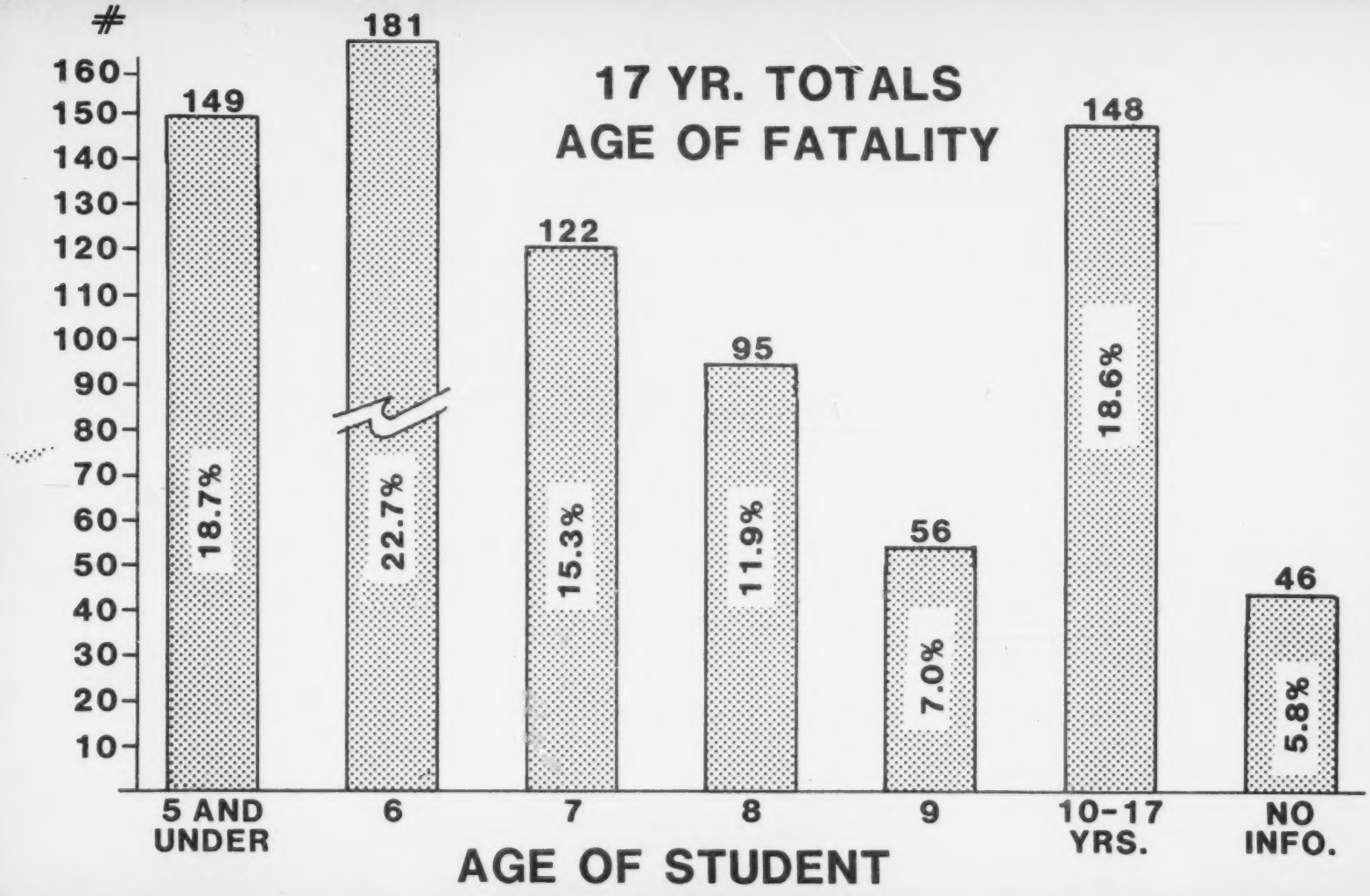
20. An eight-year-old boy went across the road to talked to neighbors before the bus arrived. When the bus came in sight, the boy ran across the road and was hit by a pick-up truck.

THE ABOVE SUMMARY REPORTS WERE THOSE THAT HAD SUFFICIENT INFORMATION REPORTED TO INCLUDE IN THIS REPORT. THESE ARE ALSO AN OVERALL TYPICAL REPRESENTATION OF THE FATALITY ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED.



17 YR. TOTALS
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER RELATED
VS
THE OTHER VEHICLE


DESTINATION
17 YR. TOTALS
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
797
535
67.5%
233
29.3%
29
3.2%
TOTAL
TRIP HOME
TRIP TO SCHOOL
ACTIVITY OR NO INFORMATION


17 YR. TOTALS
AGE OF FATALITY
#
160
150
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
149
18.7%
181
22.7%
122
15.3%
95
11.9%
56
7.0%
148
18.6%
46
5.8%
5 AND UNDER
6
7
8
9
10-17 YRS.
NO INFO.
AGE OF STUDENT

SUMMARY

- *609 fatalities occurred to students 5, 6, 7 & 8 yrs. of age, or 76.4% of total.*
- *Students departing bus on way home involved in 67.1% of all fatalities in the study.*
- *School bus related accidents outnumber those involving "the other vehicle"*
- *In the 82,-86 calendar years, the school bus was involved in 61.9% of the accidents or 109 of the 176 fatalities that occurred.*

This survey is provided annually to the school transportation industry in an effort to alert individuals and organizations of the dangers involved in loading and unloading school children. Fatalities continue to occur at the bus stop, caused by a variety of circumstances and errors on the part of the school bus driver or a passing motorist. It points out the continuing need for forceful, advanced instruction to school bus drivers, and the need to increase our efforts to thoroughly inform the driving public about the requirements of the school bus stop law.

Limited quantities of this document are available from the address provided below. Please feel free to reproduce and utilize the survey data as desired, as it is provided specifically for this purpose.

Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Personnel Services
Safety Education Section
State Office Bldg., 7th Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1568
(913) 296-3551